

The Bluegrass Herald

-- January 19th, 1861 --

MAJOR ANDERSON, U.S.A., COMMANDING AT FORT SUMTER.



WE are indebted to Mrs. Anderson, wife of Major Anderson, for the likeness from which the accompanying portrait of that gallant officer has been copied. It may be safely said that he, above all other men, is in every one's thoughts and conversation at the present time.

Major Anderson is a Kentuckian; he was born in that State in September, 1805. At the age of fifteen he entered the Military Academy at West Point, and

graduated in 1825. He joined the army with the rank of Second-Lieutenant of the Second and subsequently of the Third Artillery. In 1832 he was Inspector-General of the Illinois Volunteers, in the Black Hawk War; Mr. Lincoln, the President-elect being a captain of those volunteers. In 1833 he received his commission as First-Lieutenant, and became Instructor and Inspector at West Point. This post he held for four years, during which period he collected the material for his work on Artillery, the standard text-book on the subject.

In 1838, for gallantry in the Florida War, he was made Brevet-Captain, and soon afterward joined General Scott's military family as aid-de-camp. The relations of Major Anderson with the gallant old chief were so friendly and agreeable that one can well imagine the interest felt by the latter in the Major's present movements. In October, 1841, so slow is promotion in our army, Anderson received his commission as captain in his regiment.

In March, 1847, he was with the Third Regiment of Artillery in the army of General Scott, and took part in the siege of Vera Cruz—being one of the officers to whom was entrusted, by General Bank head, the command of the

batteries. This duty he performed with signal skill and gallantry, and he continued with the army until its triumphal entry into the city of Mexico, in September following. During the operations in the valley of Mexico, he was attached to the brigade of General Garland, which formed a part of General Worth's division. In the attack on El Molino del Rey, on the 8th of September, where he was wounded very severely, his conduct was the theme of especial praise on the part of his superior officers. Captain Burke, his immediate commander, in his dispatch of September 9, says : " Captain Robert Anderson (acting field-officer) behaved with great heroism on this occasion. Even after receiving a severe and painful wound, he continued at the head of the column, regardless of pain and self-preservation, and setting a handsome example to his men of coolness, energy, and courage." General Garland speaks of him as being, with "some few others, the very first to enter the strong position of El Molino;" and adds, that "Brevet-Major Buchanan, Fourth Infantry, Captain Anderson, Third Artillery, and Lieutenant Sedgwick, Second Artillery, appear to have been particularly distinguished for their gallant defense of the captured works." In addition to this testimony to his bearing on that occasion we have that of General Worth, who particularly directed the attention of the Commander-in-Chief to the part he had taken in the action. " For gallant and meritorious conduct in the Battle

of Molino del Rey" he was promoted to the brevet rank of Major, dating from September 8, 1847. October 5, 1857, he was promoted to the position of Major of the First Artillery, which he now holds.

Editorial

A Kentuckian's Plea for Preservation

In our present tumultuous times, it's clear that the South stands out in both industry and wealth. Our land, crops, and efforts create a level of prosperity that no Northern state can match. The North's economy depends on our goods. The South, on the other hand, is self-sufficient and produces vital goods like cotton and hemp. These products are respected worldwide and give us an economic advantage. As James Henry Hammond estimated in his speech "Cotton is King," the South exports over \$185,000,000, compared to the North's \$95,000,000. The soil and climate of our states make us strong and independent. Cotton fuels our



trade and finance, and our efforts

help create wealth globally. This isn't just a matter of pride; it's plainly a fact. Yet while the South is growing more prosperous, some ne'er-do-wells in the North are stirring up malcontents. They want to limit our own industry and disrupt our society. Their plans threaten our property, economic stability, and the way our states are governed. Our own president, in his Cooper Union Address, flat out denied the obvious Republican backings of the insurrectionist incidents of Harper's Ferry and John Brown's failed revolt. We, who feed nations and provide necessary goods for Northern trade, must be prudent. To protect our economy, freedom, and way of life, we need to consider what our Southern neighbors are doing. We must recognize that depending on promises from the North is unwise. We should focus on our rights and our ability to be self-sufficient before giving in to pressure. The world understands the South's value. Let Kentucky acknowledge its strength and let Kentucky act wisely to secure both prosperity and honor in the face of pressure.

A Review of Recent Occurrences in the Kentucky General Assembly

The General Assembly convened in special session this week under the direction of Governor Beriah Magoffin, who addressed the legislature on matters of pressing concern to the Commonwealth.

In his opening remarks, the Governor urged calm deliberation amid the unsettled condition of national affairs, recommending the adoption of a resolution affirming the present importance of our institutions to Kentucky's culture, society, and economy, while advising against any immediate legislative action upon the question. A decisive vote of 24 - 4 quickly settled the matter.

Immediately after, a poorly timed proposal was introduced by a representative of the Bluegrass region, Mr. David Solomon Paul, seeking to alter existing manumission laws. The measure, which would have declared all enslaved persons "henceforth and forever free," was met with hesitation and failed to advance for want of a second.

Debate throughout the session touched upon the broader questions of slavery, state rights, relative economic power, and Kentucky's position within the Union. Many members called for prudence and careful consideration, with some expressing a desire to avoid hasty action while the course of events in other states continues to unfold. Near the end of the session, Legislator D. L. Roberts advocated strengthening state law enforcement.

THE CHRISTIAN PRISONERS IN CHINA.

WE learn that Captain Brabazon, Mr. De Norman, Mr. Boulton, and

others—nineteen in all, French and English, who were taken prisoners by the Chinese on the approach to Peking—have perished in consequence of the severity of their sufferings in captivity. They were tied with cords so tightly bound across the wrists, ankles, and fingers that mortification ensued, insect life was engendered, and the wretched prisoners perished in agonizing torments.

We also learn, by telegraph from St. Petersburg, that the Allies have concluded peace and evacuated Peking.

We are unacquainted with the vengeance exacted from the Chinese for the maltreatment of their prisoners. It is to be hoped that it was calculated to impress upon the Chinese the value of Christian life. If it was not, Lord Elgin's expedition has been in vain, and the work will have to be done over again. His own reception in England, in this event, will not be enviable.

The brutal massacre of these Englishmen and Frenchmen is consistent with the uniform tenor of Chinese behavior toward foreigners of every race ; and if their barbarous conduct has escaped condign punishment, an opportunity has been lost which might have secured the safety of Christians in China for many years to come.

Manumission Act: A disregard for the Constitution

Written by Guest Editor Johnathon Sullivan

The original constitution of 1787 clearly permits slavery. This is a crucial stone to the economic foundation that has allowed this great nation to prosper. The southern colonies have based our economy on the labor force provided by this right. The effort to disable this labor force is a direct attack on our state, and will have devastating economic effects. Kentucky does not have the infrastructure or trade routes required for an industrial revolution. We have established ourselves as the leading hemp providers for the nation. Allowing the crafting of medicinal aids, clothing articles, rope, tents, canvas, sacks, and paper. Without our slave labor force, these items will have a direct price increase. These products are used and purchased daily; this labor reduction will impact all Americans negatively. The manumission act is an attempt to stop the slave trade, and instill the idea of a large-scale war effort. This promotes a nationwide conflict which will cause widespread trauma and murder. America has found its time of peace, and each citizen should do everything in its power to halt the possibility of this widespread slaughter. The manumission act promotes evil doing, creating more manpower for war, murder, and ripping property from the hands of Americans who have worked very hard for what they own. This is a deliberate attempt to undermine

the constitution. Each word of the constitution was carefully crafted in order to prevent against a monarch power. Altering the core themes of this document will undoubtedly hurt this nation, especially the great colony of Kentucky, changing life as we know it, not for the better, but for the worse.

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Colophon

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Edited by D.L. Roberts

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<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/1861/december/civil-war-ads.htm>

Cotton is King:

<https://teachingamericanhistory.org/document/cotton-is-king/>

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<https://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/cooper.htm>

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